

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MOSCOW 01012

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIN, EEWT, PINT, UR, US
SUBJECT: CODEL STEVENSON: WRAP UP ON STEVENSON VISIT TO MOSCOW

REF: (A) MOSCOW 643, (B) MOSCOW 644, (C) MOSCOW 717, (D) MOSCOW 766,
(E) MOSCOW 678, (F) MOSCOW 866, (G) MOSCOW 937, (H) MOSCOW 997

1. REFERENCED TELEGRAMS SUMMARIZE MAIN DISCUSSION WHICH U.S. SENATOR ADLAI E. STEVENSON OF ILLINOIS, HAD WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS DURING HIS VISIT TO MOSCOW, JANUARY 12-17. SENATOR STEVENSON WAS ACCOMPANIED BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LUERS AND PROFESSOR JOHN W. LEWIS OF STANFORD UNIVERSITY.

2. WHILE IN MOSCOW SENATOR STEVENSON MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO (MOSCOW 643 AND 644) AND STATE BANK CHAIRMAN ALKHIMOV (MOSCOW 866) ON JANUARY 13 AND WITH ACADEMICIAN GEORGII ARBATOV OF THE USA/CANADA INSTITUTE (MOSCOW 766 AND 768), MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE PATOLICHEV (MOSCOW 997) AND MINISTER OF THE GAS INDUSTRY ORUDZHEV (MOSCOW 937). HE ALSO PAID A PROTOCOL VISIT TO HIS HOST, ALEKSEY P. SHITIKOV, CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF THE UNION AND CHAIRMAN OF THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP OF THE USSR SUPREME SOVIET. HE DINED IN THE APARTMENT OF A SOVIET FILM STUDIO OFFICIAL WHOSE WIFE IS A LANGUAGE TEACHER AT THE EMBASSY. HE ALSO ADDRESSED THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ACCREDITED U.S. BUEINESSES AT A BREAKFAST IN THE COMMERCIAL OFFICE, JANUARY 16. IN ADDITION HE MET WITH ALKHIMOV, FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS KORNIYENKO, DEPUTY MINISTER
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OF FOREIGN TRADE MANZHULO AND PROFESSOR VASILIIY N. UVACHAN, A DEPUTY OF THE COUNCIL OF NATIONALITIES OF THE SUPREME SOVIET AT A STAG LUNCHEON IN THE CHARGE'S HOME. THE PARTY HAD A PRIVATE LUNCH AND PRIAVTE DINNER IN SOVIET RESTAURANTS WITH CHARGE AND WIFE, AND THEY WERE GUESTS OF LEV TOLKUNOV, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP OF THE SUPREME SOVIET, AT A LUNCHEON IN THE KREMLIN. ON THE EVENING OF JANUARY 16, THE SENATOR HOSTED A SMALL DINNER

AT ARAGVI RESTAURANT FOR DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE VIKTOR IVANOV, STATE PLANNING COMMITTEE CHIEF FOR RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN (NON-COMMUNIST) COUNTRIES VLADIMIR MORDVINOV, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS USA SECTION DEPUTY CHIEF KONSTANTIN FEDOSEYEV AND SERGO MIKOYAN, EDITOR OF LATINSKAYA AMERIKA AND SON OF A FORMER POLITBURO MEMBER. HE TOURED THE CENTRAL MARKET, VISITED AN ORTHODOX CHURCH SERVICE AND VISITED THE MOSCOW CHORAL SYNAGOGUE. (UNFORTUNATELY CHIEF RABBI JACOB FISHMAN WAS ILL AND

SHALOM KLEINMAN, LAY PRESIDENT OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL, WAS NOT PRESENT.) HE ALSO CONDUCTED A PRESS CONFERENCE WITH RESIDENT AMERICAN JOURNALISTS (MOSCOW 717).

3. THE SENATOR'S CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDED ATTENDANCE AT AN OPERA IN THE BOLSHOI THEATER, A TRIP TO THE MONASTERY AT ZAGORSK AND THE EMBASSY'S DACHA AT TARASOVKA AND A TOUR OF THE INTERIOR OF THE KREMLIN, INCLUDING A LOOK AT THE CROWN JEWELS.

4. SINCE THEY WERE AWARE OF THE SENATOR'S DISPLEASURE AT THE RUDE RECEPTION HE RECEIVED ON HIS ONE PRIOR VISIT TO THE USSR, IN 1971, THE SOVIETS DECIDED (APPARENTLY RATHER BELATEDLY) THAT THIS TIME THEY WOULD "REALLY TREAT HIM RIGHT." HENCE THE DECISION TO GRANT HIM AND HIS PARTY "GUEST" STATUS. HE WAS NOT GRANTED MEETINGS WITH BREZHNEV (PRESUMABLY ILL), KOSYGIN (BUSY WITH ALGERIAN VISITORS), DEPUTY PREMIER KIRILLIN (OUT OF CONFIDENTIAL

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MOSCOW) OR STATE PLANNING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BAYBAKOV (APPARENTLY DUE TO THE LATTER'S UNWILLINGNESS TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT). HE WAS FORCED TO CANCEL A SCHEDULED CALL ON FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY ZHDANOV DUE TO A TIME CONFLICT. OTHERWISE, HOWEVER, THE SENATOR WAS GIVEN AN INTERESTING AND FULL SCHEDULE, WHICH PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SOME DISCUSSION WITH SOVIET LEADERS AND EXPERTS OF EACH OF THE THREE MAIN AREAS OF HIS INTEREST: INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL QUESTIONS, ENERGY AND SALT.

5. THE SENATOR TRIED TO LEAVE WITH THE SOVIETS, ESPECIALLY, PATOLICHEV AND ALKHIMOV, THE MESSAGE THAT THE ACTIONS OF CONGRESS ON TRADE LEGISLATION WILL BE DETERMINED IN LARGE MEASURE BY THE OVERALL CLIMATE OF RELATIONS, AND POINTED OUT WAYS WHICH THAT CLIMATE COULD BE IMPROVED BY SOVIET ACTION. REGARDING SALT, HE CONVEYED THE CLEAR MESSAGE, TO BOTH GROMYKO AND ARBATOV, THAT THE SENATE WOULD LOOK WITH PARTICULAR CARE AT ARRANGEMENTS REGARDING MODERNIZATION AND VERIFICATION WHEN THE SALT II TREATY COMES UP FOR RATIFICATION.

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6. WE FEEL THAT THE SENATOR'S VISIT WAS MOST HELPFUL
IN CONVEYING TO SENIOR SOVIET OFFICIALS SOME OF THE
REALITIES OF AMERICAN PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL OPINION.
HIS EXPLANATION OF THE BACKGROUND OF THE STEVENSON AMENDMENT
WAS USEFUL IN CLARIFYING IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS IN
THE PAST, WHICH THE SOVIETS CLEARLY DID NOT FULLY
UNDERSTAND. HIS COMMENTS ON THE NEED FOR AN IMPROVED
OVERALL POLITICAL CLIMATE BEFORE THE LEGISLATIVE BARRIERS
TO TRADE CAN BE REMOVED WERE A HEALTHY CORRECTIVE
TO IMPRESSIONS OFTEN RECEIVED BY SENIOR SOVIETS FROM
CONVERSATIONS WITH U.S. BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES.
WHILE THE SENATOR DID NOT OF COURSE DISCUSS THE DETAILS
OF OUR CURRENT NEGOTIATING POSITIONS IN SALT, HE MADE
IT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT HE BELIEVED
RATIFICATION OF A SALT II AGREEMENT WOULD BE IN TROUBLE WITHOUT A
SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTION OF MODERNIZATION AND VERIFICATION ISSUES.

7. WE WOULD NOTE FINALLY THAT THE SOVIET COOPERATION
IN ARRANGING APPOINTMENTS, BOTH FOR SENATOR STEVENSON
AND FOR MEMBERS OF CODEL SMITH WHICH PRECEDED HIM,
WAS IN PLEASANT CONTRAST TO THE TREATMENT OFTEN AFFORDED
TO CODELS IN THE PAST WHO VISIT THE SOVIET UNION ON THEIR
OWN INITIATIVE. THEIR COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE IN THESE
INSTANCES WAS DOUBTLESS STIMULATED IN PART BY THE
FACT THAT A SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION IS SCHEDULED TO
LEAVE FOR THE U.S. VERY SOON, AND ALSO BY
SENATOR STEVENSON'S PROMINENCE. WE WOULD HOPE THAT IT
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ALSO REFLECTS A BELATED RECOGNITION BY THE SOVIETS
OF THE VALUE TO THEM IN ARRANGING MEANINGFUL PROGRAMS
FOR VISITING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. WHETHER THIS IS
IN FACT THE CASE WILL BE PUT TO THE TEST AS WE
ARRANGE PROGRAMS FOR FUTURE CODELS.
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